

SPEECH

DELIVERED at a

VISITATION

HELD in the

DIOCESE of CLOGHER;

SEDE VACANTE.

September 27. 1671.

By *D. L. L. D.* VICAR-GENERAL to His
GRACE, the LORD PRIMATE
of all IRELAND.

PUBLISHED

Not only at the desire and instance of the whole
CLERGY of that DIOCESE, but also at the
further instance of the *Right Reverend Father in*
GOD, ROBERT, Lord Bishop of *Kilmore* and
Ardagh, expressed in his Letter thereunto prefixed.

TOGETHER

With an EPITAPH written by his Lordship, on
JOHN, Lord Bishop of CLOGHER, deceased.

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SPLENDOR

PRINTED BY

VISITATION

Diocese of CLOGHER;
GENERAL VISITATION

By D. L. A. D. VICAR-GENERAL to His
GRACE the LORD PRIMATE
of ARMAGH.

PUBLISHED

Not only as the duty and interest of the whole
Clergy of the Diocese, but also as the
interest of the Right Reverend Father in
God ROBERT T. Lord Bishop of Kilmore and
Clogher, expressed in his Letter thereto prefixed.

TOGETHER

with a List of the Clergy of the Diocese, as
far as is known by his Lordship.

Printed by Benjamin Toole, Printer to the Hon. Most
Reverend the Lord Bishop of Clogher, at his House,
No. 11, Westgate Street, Dublin. MDCCLXXXI.

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Amico suo admodum Reverendo *Dud-*
leio Loftus J. V. D. Vicario Gene-
rali Armachano, & Summæ Curiaë
Cancellariaë in hoc Regno Hiberniaë
Magistro.

Charissime Vir! in quo vel solo
vel principe, præter exactissimam
Linguarum Orientalium Cogni-
tionem, Juris Canonici, & Civilis pruden-
tia, apud nos injuriâ temporum unâ cum
professoribus penè extincta, non reviviscit
modo sed & eminet. Totus per me Clerus
Clogherensis exoratum te volunt quate-
nûs Orationem illam tuam Luculentissi-
mam, quam apud eos in VISITATIONE
istâ sede vacante, nupèr habuisti & in quâ
Johannis Leshæi Episcopi sui defuncti Vi-
A tam,

tam, Mores, Pietatem & Doctrinam,
quasi in Tabulâ Apellæo plûs quam pene-
cillo, tuo more depinxisti, Prælo, in eorum
gratiam, baud gravatim permittas. Quod
& tua quoque tempora summopere à te,
& jure suo contendunt. Ut sciant poste-
ri, occubuisse etiam hic apud nos, in extre-
mo Orbis terrarum angulo, qualem, vel Ec-
clesia Primitiva, sibi optasset Episcopum.
Vir enim verè magnus fuit, ut cum maxi-
mis compararetur. Prævidemus tuam hic
renitentiam, quia scimus modestiam. sed tot
tantorumque Virorum precibus obnixius
repugnare, crede mihi, modestiæ erit plus
quàm immodestiæ. à qua culpâ te esse ali-
enissimum, nota tua cum justitia, tum hu-
manitas indicio est. Monumento quovis
ære perenniori, à te illi posito, Epitaphium
nostrum, per me licet, addas. Valere te
jubet Literatorum decus

Salutis & famæ tuæ cupidiss.

R O B: Kilmorensis, &c.

EPITAPHIUM

Reverendi admodum in Christo Patrís

JOHANNIS

EPISCOPI

CLOGHERENSIS

Nuper defuncti Memorix dicatum.

Scotia me gennit, me Gallia fovit alumnum,

Diſtatis ſapuit Gallus, iberque meis.

Sodorensis apud Scotos, Rapotensis Hibernos,

Et Clogherensis Ego, Rege jubente, fui.

Quin à Conſiliis, Ragnòque Senator utroque,

Unus eram, & ſolus, Regibus, ipſe tribus.

Ætate hæc nemo tot vixit Episcopus annos,

Ævi nemo magis mole gravatus obit.

RESTITUTUM

Restitutum in Christo

JOHANNES

EPISCOPUS

CLOCHERENSIS

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I Am entered into a *Diocese*, yet overcast with the **black** of **Funeral Obsequies**, for a *Right Reverend*, and *Pious Father* of the *Church*, **JOHN, LORD BISHOP** of **CLOGHER**; And the *Resentments* of Grief which invade my *Mind* at this time, from the consideration of his *Retirement* into the **Shades of Death**, Clogg my *Thoughts* with many *melancholy Reflections*; amongst which, it is a *sad Contemplation*, to consider the *rapid Progress* of *Time*, which frequently brings with it such *Alterations*, arising out of the *Incidents* and *Emergencies* of *Humane Actions*, as would inevitably ruine the *most solid Composure* of all *Humane Societies*, were it not for the provision of *seasonable Remedies* against such *Occurrences*. What I have said, is generally true and obvious enough to *common Observation*; yet it is not more considerable, nor so evidently apparent in any other instance, as in that of *Ecclesiastical Societies*; and amongst the many *Alterations* which the course of *Time* brings into that *State*, none would so soon *hurry* it into the precipice of inevitable Ruine, as the **Death of Bishops**, were there not a *Law* to supply their **Mortality**, and to fill up the *Vacancies* of their *Au-*
A 2 *thority*;

thority; either by the *Concathenation* of persons in a due *Succession* in their respective *Sees*, or else by a *subsidiary Administration* of their power by those who have that Authority *sede vacante*; for which Reasons, the *Apostles* instituted by our *Saviour* for the *Government* of his *Church*, appointed the Order of *Bishops* to follow them in a *perpetual Succession*, as to that *Administration*: And since their Time, there hath been made in the *Church*, a regular provision to exercise that *Jurisdiction* in every *Vacancy*, which hath been constantly performed by the several *Metropolitans*, or their respective *Commissaries* in every *Province* of this *Kingdom*, in the several *Dioceses* of their respective *Suffragans*, who, like wise *Stewards*, have in such *Cases* proportioned their *Dispensations*, according to the *Exigencies* of the *Clergy* and *People*, until the *Supreme Authority* were pleased to infuse new *Vigours* into the *suspended ordinary Jurisdiction*, by the *Installation* of a *New Bishop*, fit to fill the place of so high a *Function*:

Wherefore *His Grace* the Lord *PRIMATE*, pursuant to *His undoubted Authority*, being as willing to inform Himself of your *Condition*, as to satisfy you of *His Care*, but unable to accommodate *His weighty Occasions* elsewhere, to the
desire

desire He had to visit you in *Person*; hath committed that *Office* unto me, as an *Affair* which requires a *sollicitous Inspection*.

I shall therefore endeavour, with an heedful diligence, to enquire, and then labour to fit such accommodations of *Ecclesiastical Policy* and *Discipline*, to the measures which shall be taken of the State, Interest and Exigencies of this *Dioceſe*, as may make the best Declaration of *His Graces Care* of you, and of *my duty* in ministring unto Him therein, which is *my onely business* here at this Time; for had I not been governed more by *my duty*, than *Interest*, I should not have come at present, willingly, on this occasion; however, if I shall have the *Honour* to serve the Advantages of *Religion*, or to pleasure the *meanest Clergy-man* in the *Dioceſe*, I shall think my self abundantly recompens'd.

The *duty* and *office* which this *day* and *occasion* calls for from you, is so intelligibly declared in *His Graces Mandat*, which hath been read, that I need not say any more, to usher you into that *Affair*; yet I cannot attend your entrance thereinto, until you shall be desired to address your Attention to a *just Testification* of my Respects due to the *Honoured Memory* of your late *Diocesan*; for the *Sepulchre* of his *Body*,

will never be the **Grave** of his **Memory**; nay, though **Death** hath removed him from us, yet may not he live and govern here still? as *Constantine the Great*, is said to have Reigned after his **Death**, *in the memory of his subjects*.

As *Detraction* is one of the greatest Offenders in *Humane society*, so a *seasonable declaration of deserved praises*, is the *legitimate issue of Morality*, the *life of Memory*, and the *grateful Messenger of Antiquity*, and is commonly entertained with acceptance: I wish therefore, that I had a *Tongue* as able to utter his *Attributes* in their due splendor, as you have an *Ear* ready to entertain them; I confess, they might have been better fitted to the **Funeral Pomp** of his **Obsequies**, than to this *Occasion*, which will not give me leave to represent them in a *Geometrical scituation*, according to their *full dimensions*, but as by *Perspective*, and at a distance lesser than they are: And I must assure you, That as I shall not attribute any thing unto *him* which was not *his due*, so I must necessarily omit very *many things* which deserve *commendation*, and were in the *contexture* of my thoughts; my purpose being rather to shew, That I was not altogether a *stranger unto him*, then to make a *plenary recital of his Life*: And that I may the more distinctly breath
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my Thoughts into your attentive Ears, I shall reduce all that I have to say, within the comprehension of five particulars.

First, I shall present you with the Blossoms of his Youth.

Secondly, I shall shew you the Degrees and Steps by which he was advanced into Repute of the World, and his ROYAL MASTERS Favour.

Thirdly, I shall set forth at least some of his Actions before the War.

Fourthly, I shall give a touch at his Sufferings, during the time of the Abhorred Usurpation.

Fifthly, I shall represent the last Scene of his Life, Acted between the Kings Restitution, and his Egresa out of the World.

And herein I shall not, as they say, *Prendre la chose de plus hant*, by the derivation of him from his Original; nor shall I repeat the Domestic History of his Ancestors; nor the Antiquity of his Family, for that would take up time needlessly, inasmuch as I speak to those who know it was not obscure, though his own Atchievements raised it to a higher degree of splendor. He

He was sent in his younger years to take up Learning in France, where his Behaviour did consist in actions of dutiful Conformity to the Rules of his Instructors; and though he was then in some things carried beyond the conduct of his own Inclinations, yet would he not drink so deep as others did of the Lake of GENEVA; there, in the sedulous course of his Study, he suddenly became a great and judicious Master of Wit, having then adorned an excellent natural Ingenuity, with many choice Flowers of Divine and Humane Learning; and particularly improved himself to so great a perfection in the Greek and Latin Tongue, (whereof he had a deep tincture before) that afterwards, the prompt, florid and genuine Expressions of himself in the latter, when he was in Spain, procured him this Eulogie in several Conferences of many Learned men, Solus Laetæus Latine loquitur. In the next place, he applied himself to penetrate into abstruse conceptions in the most retired corners of knowledge; and in particular, addicted himself to School-Divinity, the quintessence and best refined part of Learning, and to the Art of Memory, according to the Lullian Rules: These Endowments recommended him to a Readers place, where the lustre of so shining a Reputation as he gain'd

gain'd in sustaining the Honour of that Chair, proclaim'd his Merit to Publick Notice; whereupon, some Noble person of his Kindred, and others of high place, willing to countenance the Reputation of so hopeful a Scholar, encouraged him to appear at Court, where he was immediately recommended to the Kings Favour, which brings me to the second particular proposed, which was, the degrees and steps by which he was advanced into the Repute of the World; and his ROYAL MASTERS Favour.

The first Ray of Royal Favour that ever fell on his Honour from that King, was darted at his discreet Humility; for it was observed by that wise King, that nothing commends Church-men more, than a pious and discreet humility: They being like Medals, to which Vertue and Learning may give the stamp, but Humility must give the weight. About this time he was inlisted the Kings Chaplain, and thereby having obtained a Residence at Court, which is the best scituation for prospect into the Affairs of the World, he gained great advantages of knowing Commerce with Men, and so became excellently well versed in the practical parts of Morality, insomuch, that in a short time afterward, he was highly esteem'd for stratagems of State, and the highe st Transacti-

ons of Business. His Behaviour also shewed ,
That he was not then ignorant of the outward
Addresses of Courtship, yet Reality was his pro-
fession and practice; and though his natural dis-
position had set up a great Gravity in his Behavi-
our, yet his facetious deportment amongst Persons
of Honour, rendred his Conversation most accep-
table. Again, He was then so choice a Maga-
zine of LEARNING and WIT, that his ordina-
ry discourse abounded with refined subtilties of
Learning, or rare sublimities of Poetry, according
as he had occasion to vary his discourse in the
several Interchanges of Company; but nothing
contributed more to his further advancement,
than that he was so exempt from Avarice and
Ambition, that he laboured more to deserve
well, than to obtain that which he deserved; it
is not therefore to be admir'd, that so many
rare Endowments concentred in this person: He
was received by the KING into so high a de-
gree of Trust and Privacy, that after he had de-
pended for some time on the Liberality of his
Princely influence, he was not only constituted
DEAN of the Chappel to King JAMES of
ever blessed Memory, when he was last in Scotland,
but also he was made as it were, *Uno Flatu*,
Bishop of the Isles, and a Privy Counsel-

102 in Scotland. I being now arrived to this period, am to proceed to the third particular proposed, which is the *Relation* of some of his *Actings*, after he was made a *Prelate*, until the *War* began.

When he was *Installed in the Bishoprick of the Isles*, at his *Primary Visitation*, he found so irreconcilable a difference between the *Inhabitants* barbarity, and his *polisht* behaviour; He found the very *Clergy* there so indocible, and obstinate to all impressions of *Civility* and *Piety*, that he immediately began to meditate on his Removal thence; which was effected, by his *Translation* to the Bishoprick of *Raphoe*; and at the same time, was *Honoured* with the charge of a *Privy Counsellor* in this *Kingdom* also; where he did with much *Reputation* to himself, and no less advantage to the service of the *Crown*, support the *Honour* and *Dignity* His then *MAJESTY* had so *Graciously* seated him in. He being now *Inthroned* in his *CATHEDRAL* of *Raphoe*, I must take special notice of one magnificent *Act* of his, amongst many others, which imports so much to his *Honour*, and so far goes beyond all examples of his *Predecessors*, and all other *Prelates* his *Contemporaries*, in that kind, that I cannot pass it over, without being guilty of a

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blame

blame-worthy Omission; and that is, the Erecting of a Capacious and Sumptuous Palace for himself, and his Successors, at his own charge; of a strong structure, and beautiful composure, which his Successor in that Diocese now enjoyeth. He was then, and many years afterward, a frequent Preacher; his Sermons alwayes consisted of most significant speech, handsomely apparrelled, comprehending such strength of Reason, as gave great satisfaction to all his Hearers, and gain'd to himself great Applause. And were delivered, not meanly or contemptibly, in the beggerly or despicable way of Reading, but memoriter; with such Vivacity of Speech, such Grace of Action, and such sutableness of Gesture, that he might have been termed, *The Module of Quaint Preaching*; hence it hath been said of him, and another Bishop of his name, **That no man could Preach more Gracefully than the one, nor with more Authority than the other.**

Methinks I now see him falling from the highest Pinnacle of his Fortune, to a low Condition; and that brings me to the fourth particular, which is, **his Suffering in the Time of Usurpation**; for, after he had in Times of great Necessity, for the defence of himself, and the Kingdoms preservation, Couragiously managed the shield,

shield, to his Immortal Honour, and the highest
Repute of personal Valour; his Countenance being so
dareing, and his Words so powerfully inciting up-
on all perilous Exigents, as was sufficient to in-
spire Courage into dismay'd Souldiers, He is
at length, by the **Rigid Tyranny** of **Usur-**
pation, not only deprived of his Bishoprick, but
also disgracefully thrust out of his Palace, and
reduced to the Obscurity of Solitude in a *Pagli-*
arella, in the Parish of *Raphae*; where, though
his Jurisdiction was not only Inhabited, but also
Overawed by Guards of Souldiers, he would not
suspend the declaration of his Care, of his then
small flock, constantly Preaching unto them.

During this severe Extremity of Fortune, he
lay, as it were, Intombed in the Region of a Civil
Death; and though he was then for his Age
venerable, and a good Conscience sacred, yet was
he unnaturally persecuted by some of his own
Countrey-men, persons of bad affections, and
worse principles; but, to shew that his Vertues
were equally bright in both extremities of his
checker'd Fortune, his Fidelity did then suggest
unto him, that Noble Liberty which he frequent-
ly took, in vindicating the Cause of the Church,
and the Kings Honour; whose Restitution so oft-
en prayed for by him in my hearing, brings me

to the last particular, viz. **The last Scene of his Life, Acted between the Kings Restitution, and his Quietus est.**

At the Kings Return into *England*, the pre-eminency of *Age* made him the *eldest Man*; and the *Priority of Consecration*, had made him the most *ancient Prelate* in our Catalogue of Bishops: Then was he *Restored* to his Bishoprick of *Raphoe*, and every former *Affront*, was, by this *glorious change*, turned into a *beam of splendour*; and though he did not then *step* to a *higher degree* of Promotion, by reason of his *adhesion* to his forementioned principle, viz. **That he laboured moze to deserbe well, than to obtain what he deserved:** Yet was he upon the *first Vacancy* afterward, Translated to this *Diocese*, where he filled up and adorned the *SEE*, with great Examples *worthy of Imitation*; for his Conversation was not gilded with the Leaf-gold of an *external profession*, but most solid in the *soundness* of an interior cordial reality and correspondency to the Rules of his *Function*. He well knew, That the *safety of Government*, as well *Ecclesiastical*, as *Civil*, did depend upon the *Truth*, and *Conformity of Religion*; for it is a *Maxim* publicly divulged in matters of *State*, and *Registered* for a fundamental Principle:
Wherefore,

Wherefore, though bred under ~~persecuted~~ **per-**
terians in *France*, he could never be per-
waded to *countenance*, or *bring up* such *Presby-*
ters under the *Wing of Episcopacy*; and all
Conventicles of the Separation, he reso-
lutely Declared against, as the *Synagogues* and
Schools of Hypocrisie and Dissimulation; well
approving of what is read in the *Life of Con-*
stantine, written by the Pen of *Eusebius*, who
Relates, **how that Noble, Wise and Pious**
Emperour, did not only prohibit **Schis-**
matics to meet at **Conventicles**, but al-
so commanded their **Meeting-places** to be
demolishd, Lib. III. Cap. 36.

At last (for I must hasten to an end) when
Age, and its usual Concomitant, *Debility of*
body, made him begin to *fail* under the *burthen*
of Affairs, he endeavoured, by a seasonable Re-
tirement, to Retreat to an *innocent privacy*, and
to spin out the remainder of his *Aged life* in
the *Calms of Vacancy and Repose*, minding no
other Affairs, nor the prosecution of any other
design, than *Acts of Devotion*, and the Regular
Government of his **DIOCESE**; *Habens vitam*
in patientia mortem in desiderio.

Evagrius speaking of the *Monks of Palestine*,
said, *Vt insepulti mortui videbantur*; They seemed

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Dead men undyrled: I might have said the
like of this Prelate, for some of his latest Years,
had not the strength of his Memory, his daily ex-
ercising of devotion, and necessary Acts of Juris-
diction, been sufficient Indications of his being
alive; for in all Secular Affairs, he was Reputed as
a dead man, minding only what was Reposited for
him in Heaven, where I doubt not, but he now
Resides in Eternal Glorȳ; for as his Actions
here were not only unblemisht, but also attended
with the splendor of Religion and Piety, so assu-
redly they have Glorȳ for their period. It is
said hyperbolically of Baronius, That he wrote as
much as others can Read: And I am assured, this
PRELATE hath performed more commendable
Acts than I can speak of; I shall therefore leave
him in fellowship with the Saints and
blessed Angels in Heaven, where he hath a
greater reward, than the praises of all men
in the World can contribute; even a crown
of Glorȳ, where his Life is not to be pent
up within set Limits of a short duration,
or an uncertain state, as in this World;
but to be commensurate with Eternity, in
immutable and everlasting Glorȳ.

F I N I S.



ENGLAND'S

COMPLEAT

Law-Judge,

AND

LAWYER.



ENGLAND hath alwayes without question had Courts wherein the principal part of the Law administred, was not according to any particular part of the owned Common-Law of the Nation, but according to the ever used and accustomed Law of those Courts, set up for administrating Justice to the people of the Nation in special Causes; Concerning two parts whereof I principally intend this discourse. The first doth generally concerne the people of this Nation; The other concerns equally any other Nation in the Universe. That which concerns the people of this Nation, is the Court (now commonly called) for *Probate of Wills*, and granting *Administrations*: The other which concerns all people, or may concerne them is, the Court of *Admiralty*